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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

MFG. 1-72

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TO RUESHL/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI 3609
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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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SUBJECT: THANKS TO FINNISH GOVERNMENT FOR SALT SUPPORT

REF: HELSINKI 1247

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO FINNISH MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SORSA WAS SIGNED BY SECSTATE AND AIR POUCHED AUGUST 17, 1972:

"I WANT TO MAKE A MATTER OF RECORD THE GRATITUDE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR THE POSITIVE MANNER IN WHICH THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT COOPERATED TO FACILITATE THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS (SALT) SESSIONS HELD IN HELSINKI DURING THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

FROM THE VERY START OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, YOUR ABLE STAFF, ESPECIALLY COUNSELOR MATTI CAWEN AND COLONEL AIMO PAJUNEN, PROVED INVARIABLE IN WORKING OUT THE COMPLEX ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TALKS. THIS WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT AND COOPERATION MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE FIRST PHASE OF SALT. IN ADDITION, AMBASSADOR GERARD SMITH HAS REPORTED THE NUMEROUS OCCASIONS WHEN YOUR GOVERNMENT, THE CITY OF HELSINKI, AND THE PEOPLE OF FINLAND EXTENDED THEIR GENEROUS HOSPITALITY TO THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION.

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WE ARE MOST APPRECIATIVE.

I KNOW YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT THE O
GENEVA IS IN NO WAY A REFLECTION OF ANY DISSATISFACTION
WITH HELSINKI AS A SITE FOR PHASE II OF SALT. RATHER, IT
IS AN ACCOMMODATION TO ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS INVOLVED
IN ALTERNATING BETWEEN TWO NEGOTIATING SITES.

AGAIN, ON BEHALF OF ALL AMERICAN OFFICIALS CONCERNED,
I AM PLEASED TO EXTEND TO YOU OUR SINCERE THANKS." ROGERS

H

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